

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOE-11 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06 OES-07 SP-02
SS-15 STR-06 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /113 R

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APPROVED BY EB/ORF:LRRAICHT
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R 232329Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 018131

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, VE

SUBJECT: ENERGY TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION WITH VENEZUELA

REF: STATE 281667

1. PARA 15 REFTEL LISTS R&D AREAS WHICH VENEZUELAN
DELEGATION IDENTIFIED AS BEING OF INTEREST TO GOV FOR
POTENTIAL COOPERATION DURING NOVEMBER 10-11, 1977 STAFF
LEVEL MEETING. GOV OFFICIALS INDICATED THAT IT WOULD BE
USEFUL TO HAVE EXPERTS IN EACH AREA MEET TO DEFINE

AREAS MORE PRECISELY AND EXPLORE TYPES OF R&D COOPERATION
WHICH MIGHT BE ESTABLISHED AND TO ASCERTAIN WHERE THESE
MATCHED ONGOING USG-FINANCED R&D PROGRAMS. RESULTS OF
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SUCH PRELIMINARY EXCHANGES WOULD ENABLE US TO PRESENT
MORE FOCUSED PROPOSALS TO SUBSEQUENT MINISTERIAL MEETING
FOR ENDORSEMENT.

2. REQUEST EMBASSY DISCUSS APPROACH TO ENERGY TECHNOLOGY
COOPERATION ALONG LINES OUTLINED BELOW WITH APPROPRIATE
VENEZUELAN OFFICIALS TO OBTAIN THEIR SUGGESTIONS AND, IF

POSSIBLE, APPROVAL OF INITIAL VISIT BY US EXPERTS TO DIS-

CUSS ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY (EOR). ASSUMING VENEZUELAN
AGREE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING THEIR SUGGESTIONS
ON TIMING FOR FIRST VISIT BY US EOR EXPERTS AS WELL AS
OTHER VISITS.

2. IN NOVEMBER, GOV OFFICIALS INDICATED THEIR HIGHEST
PRIORITY FOR R&D COOPERATION WITH US IS IN EOR. IN
RESPONSE, DOE PROVIDED EXTENSIVE DOCUMENTATION DESCRIBING
ONGOING EOR R&D PROGRAMS UNDERWAY IN WHICH USG
PARTICIPATING. NOW THAT VENEZUELAN OFFICIALS HAVE HAD
OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY THIS MATERIAL, GOV MAY BE IN

BETTER POSITION TO IDENTIFY EOR R&D PROGRAMS OF INTEREST.
WE ARE PREPARED SEND 2-3 EXPERTS TO CARACAS TO DISCUSS
POTENTIAL COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS IN THIS AREA WITH
VENEZUELAN OFFICIALS.

3. VENEZUELAN TEAM IDENTIFIED COAL (BOTH FOR POWER
GENERATION AND IN STEEL INDUSTRY) AND HYDRO (RESOURCE
INVENTORY) AS SECOND PRIORITY R&D AREAS. WE ARE
PREPARED TO MOVE FORWARD IN THE COAL AREA, BUT SINCE
HYDRO RESOURCES NOT CONTROLLED BY VENEZUELAN ENERGY
MINISTRY AND BASIC PURPOSE OF EXERCISE IS TO PREPARE
FOR FUTURE MEETING BETWEEN ENERGY MINISTERS, WE WONDER
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WHETHER VENEZUELAN WISH TO PURSUE THIS AREA FURTHER
IN THIS FRAMEWORK.

4. AT NOVEMBER MEETING, GOV TEAM INDICATED THAT FOLLOW-
ING AREAS HAD LOWER PRIORITY, BUT THEY WERE INTERESTED
IN EXPLORING POSSIBILITIES FOR JOINT R&D COOPERATION:

-- SOLAR (PRIMARILY SMALL DEVICES FOR PUMPING AND
HEATING WATER FOR USE IN REMOTE LOCATIONS);

-- GEOTHERMAL (GOV TEAM INDICATED VENEZUELA HAD 40-60
MW POTENTIAL);

-- BIO CONVERSION (PRIMARILY TO HANDLE THE PROCESSING
OF WASTES FROM CARACAS);

-- WIND;

-- NUCLEAR (PRIMARILY IN THE AREAS OF URANIUM RESOURCES
SURVEYS AND PROSPECTING);

-- ENERGY SYSTEMS ANALYSIS.

WE WOULD PROPOSE FOLLOWING ARRANGEMENTS:

R&D AREA..... LOCATION OF.....PROPOSED
..... DISCUSSIONS.....DURATION

A. ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY VENEZUELA..... 3 DAYS

B. ENERGY SYSTEMS ANALYSIS 'US.....'.....2 DAYS

C. COAL

--MINING TECHNIQUES

--ENVIRONMENTAL

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PROBLEMS ..'..... US 3 DAYS

D. URANIUM

--RESOURCES

--PROSPECTING TECHNIQUES

--MINING VENEZUELA'.....2 DAYS

E. BIOCONVERSION US 2 DAYS

F. OTHER SOLAR US 2 DAYS

G. GEOTHERMAL US 1 DAY

-- WE ENVISAGE EXPERT TEAMS WOULD NORMALLY CONSIST OF AT
MOST 3 PERSONS.(NOTE: INCASE OF ENERGY SYSTEMS
ANALYSIS THIS COULD BE ENLARGED BECAUSE OF IMPORTANCE USG
ATTACHES TO THIS AREA. SEE BELOW).

-- WE ASSUME EACH GOVERNMENT WOULD FUND ITS OWN EXPERTS.

-- WE PLACE SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON MOVING AHEAD PROMPTLY
WITH DISCUSSIONS ON SYSTEMS ANALYSIS SINCE WORK IN THIS
AREA COULD FACILITATE ESTABLISHMENT OF PRIORITIES IN
OTHER R&D AREAS AS WELL AS IN USE OF ENERGY RESOURCES.

-- WE HAVE NOT INCLUDED TAR SANDS IN THIS PACKAGE,
ALTHOUGH WE RECOGNIZE ITS IMPORTANCE TO GOV BECAUSE OF
THE OVERALL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS OF
DEVELOPMENT OF VENEZUELAN TAR SANDS RESOURCES. FOR THIS
REASON, WE ASSUME THIS SUBJECT WILL BE DEALT WITH
SEPARATELY.

6. REPLY TO CARACAS 357 CONCERNING SUGGESTED DATES FOR
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SCHLESINGER/HERNANDEZ MEETING WILL FOLLOW SHORTLY. VANCE

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NNN

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